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PRICE TWO CENTS

KNAPP ARRESTED ON 106 FRAUD COUNTS INVOLVING \$15,000; LAVOZKY ALSO HELD

JAS. J. HILL, NOTED RAILWAY MAGNATE, DIES AT AGE OF 78

Founder of Northern Pacific Line Succumbs After Long Illness—Relapse During Night Is Followed By Rapid Sinking Spell.

Members of Family at Bedside When End Came at 9:30 O'clock Today—Last Letter to Hill Received Five Minutes After Death.

St. Paul, May 29.—James J. Hill, railroad builder, capitalist and most widely known figure of the northwest, died at his Summit Avenue residence at 9:30 o'clock this morning as the result of an infection due to bowel trouble.

Mr. Hill was unconscious for nearly twelve hours before he died. Dr. Herman Biggs, of New York, and Dr. Stanley Seager, of Rochester, Minn., together with members of the immediate Hill family, were at the bedside at the end.

Mr. Hill's personal secretary, M. R. Brown, made the announcement of his death to waiting newspaper correspondents at the Hill residence. His statement was made verbally with the intimation that a written bulletin might be issued later.

Question regarding a date for obsequies, Mr. Brown said that no arrangements had been discussed. For several years James J. Hill had been in the habit of insisting, both to his friends and to the public, that he was not actively engaged in business. Just how active he was during the last two years of his life can be judged only by little evidences of his master hand in questions affecting the Great Northern railroad and the First National bank of St. Paul, and by three outstanding accomplishments in which his will and genius asserted themselves.

From a world viewpoint, it would be hard to say whether his staunch support of the Belgian people, following the invasion of the Germans or the part played in the negotiations for the \$500,000,000 loan to the allied governments is the more important. From the time the work of succoring the Belgians began Mr. Hill took a leading part in the movement. It will probably never be known how much money he sent to King Albert, an old personal friend, and how much he induced others to send.

His place as an international figure was never more prominently displayed than when the representatives of the allies came to New York in quest of a huge loan. One of the first men to be sent for by J. P. Morgan was Mr. Hill, and his assurance that he and the people of the northwest were prepared to do their share in taking up the foreign bonds is believed to have contributed largely to the success of the negotiations.

After the release of yesterday, the financier failed rapidly. All the members of his family were at the bedside with the exception of Mrs. M. Beard, of New York, a daughter. She was expected to arrive tonight. James J. Hill, of New York, and Mrs. Samuel Hill, of Washington, arrived early today.

"My father slept most of the night," Louis W. Hill said. Finally at 9:45 p. m., Mr. Brown, Mr. Hill's confidential secretary, came out and said to the newspaper reporters: "Mr. Hill died quietly at 9:30."

The last letter sent to Mr. Hill was received five minutes after he died. It was from United States Judge Sanborn and was sent by a special messenger.

G. A. McPherson, an old friend, who watched with the family through the night, left the Hill residence at 9:30 a. m. Just as Mr. Hill was dying, two Little Sisters of the Poor approached the home. They extended their sympathy and departed.

One of the first to leave the house was John T. Toomey, Mr. Hill's confidential business agent and associate for years. He was quickly followed by Ralph Budge, assistant to Louis W. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railroad, and one of the younger members of Mr. Hill's railroad family. L. W. Hill left the house with the Rev. Thomas J. Gibbons, vicar general of the St. Paul archdiocese.

James J. Hill discovered "the bread-basket of the world" in the Great Northwest; he led in its development from a wilderness into what now comprises six wealthy states dotted with

EBENEZER HILL'S FACTORY TO BE SCENE OF PROBE

Machinists Hear Employees Are Working 10 Hours a Day on Government Job.

Investigation of a complaint from Norwalk that men employed on a government job at the Norwalk Iron works, controlled by E. J. Hill, congressman from the Fourth district, are working 10 hours a day is being made by the International Association of Machinists.

George J. Bowen, business agent of Local No. 30, said this morning: "It has come to our attention that men in one department of the factory are working 10 hours on a government job, whereas the eight hour day is required. We don't know whether or not this is true, but if it is, it will be stopped. We shall make an investigation immediately."

The machinists have no local union in Norwalk and the Bridgeport local, No. 30, has been assigned to take care of the case.

MACHINISTS TO PROCURE HOME FOR THE UNION

Large Enough Club Rooms Not Available, They Must Purchase Building.

Because there is no available hall in Bridgeport large enough to house the members of the Machinists' union for their meetings, the two Bridgeport locals have made preparations to have a home of their own.

At the last meeting of Local No. 30 a committee of 10 was appointed to seek an available building, which will be purchased as possible. At the meeting of the Remington local, Thursday evening, an assistant committee will be appointed.

It is expected the new home will cost in the neighborhood of \$60,000. The locals expected to be in it before the end of the summer.

CUTTER MOHAWK RUNS ASHORE ON BARTLETT'S REEF

New London, May 29.—The coast-guard cutter Mohawk grounded on the shoals just inside the Bartlett's Reef Lightship, at 9:30 o'clock this morning while bound from New York to this port and at the last report was hard and fast seven miles outside New London harbor. The Mohawk was ordered to this port with several officers on board who were to attend the coast guard reunion being held at the coast guard academy at Fort Trumbull today and Tuesday.

The heavy fog that enveloped the harbor this morning made navigation hazardous and the fact that the fog signal on Bartlett Lightship could not be heard by the pilot of the steamer is held responsible for the mishap.

After the ship struck the command-officer ordered calls for help sent out and the coast guard cutters Androscoggin and Itasca which were in this harbor, submarine tender Bushnell and U. S. S. Tucker hurried to the assistance of the stranded craft. With the arrival of these vessels an attempt was made to haul the Mohawk into deep water but she was stuck hard and fast. As the steamer was in no special danger and was not damaged perceptibly by her mishap it was decided to wait until high water tonight before making any further attempt to float the craft.

WEATHER FORECAST

Partly cloudy tonight; Tuesday, showers; moderate shifting winds.

CONNECTICUT CO. TO REMOVE ITS OFFICES JULY 15

Officials of Trolley Corporation Will Take Logan Brothers' Building.

OUTGROW PRESENT QUARTERS LONG AGO

Adopt New Plan For Indicating Destination of Cars In Bridgeport.

The Connecticut Co. will move its offices on July 15. For this purpose the Logan brothers' building at Middle and Congress streets, has been leased for a term of years above the store floors. The building will offer four full floors for the administrative business of the company, which will include moving present offices from the Connecticut car barns in Congress street, the Newfield building and the trolley express building in Water street.

In the new building, which will be remodeled especially for the purposes of the Connecticut Co., will contain about July 15 these offices: General manager, superintendent, chief motorman and conductor, with the instruction school maintained for car operatives, the cashier's department, line department, claim department, trolley express department and trolley express auditors' department.

The Water street express station will be enlarged for the handling of larger quantities of express in transit, while the operating department will have much larger car accommodation in the Congress street barns.

Rapid progress is being made today in the paint shops of the Connecticut Co. on signs designed to give greater degree of vision to prospective passengers on cars for various destinations. The company will adopt the Western method of indicating destination on approaching cars.

This method retains the present system of metal sign hung upon the front of the car but adds an extremely large heavy letter underlaid beneath the smaller lettering now in vogue. The present black background sign will be retained, a large letter of the alphabet theoretically visible for a distance of about four blocks to the normal eye is painted in red as high and broad as possible on the sign.

Each route is designated by one letter, now running as far as "R" on the alphabet, including the "J" route which will be the Barnum avenue-State street line.

It is expected that all the signs will be completed within a week, during which time the Connecticut Co. will prepare for public distribution signs and pamphlets giving the routing to the public.

An illustration taken from the new route sheet of the company, which follows, is: Route A, North and South streets, which is a route which will travel as far as Seaside park and if north-bound, as far as Wentworth street. As the car approaches he will distinguish in smaller white lettering the usual destination as at present indicated on the signs.

WON'T CHARGE PAPP WOMAN WITH MURDER

State's Attorney Recommends Prosecution For Manslaughter Instead.

Mary Papp, the young bride who has been held in the county jail on the charge of murdering her husband, Nicholas Papp, while the latter was at work in a West End factory, had the charge against her changed from murder to manslaughter by order of Judge Curtis of the criminal superior court this morning.

This action was taken upon the recommendation of State's Attorney Cummings. He said he had been informed that the woman was soon to become a mother and he thought it advisable to give her a chance to get back. After looking over the evidence he thought manslaughter was probably the crime of which she is guilty. Judge Curtis ordered a bench warrant issued for Mrs. Papp on the manslaughter charge. Her bonds were fixed at \$5,000.

NO FARMER TUESDAY

In accordance with its custom, The Farmer will not publish tomorrow, Memorial Day.

BENCH WARRANTS FOR BANKER AND BENEFIT SOCIETY TRUSTEE

MEMORIAL DAY IN BRIDGEPORT

8 a. m.—Details of Grand Army men and Sons of Veterans at all cemeteries place flowers on soldiers' graves.

8 a. m.—Steamer Naugatuck leaves Rosedale dock excursion to New York.

10 a. m.—Amateur baseball at Seaside and other parks.

10:15 a. m.—Baseball, New Haven vs. Bridgeport Newfield park.

2 p. m.—Parade of veterans, military and patriotic societies.

3:15 p. m.—Exercises at Soldiers' monument at Seaside park. Sunset gun and flag ceremony.

6 p. m.—Dinner to veterans in Masonic temple, to other patriotic societies at Grand Army and Odd Fellow's halls.

8:30 p. m.—Fireworks at Newfield park. Open house at all yacht clubs as they go in commission. Dinner and dance at Black Rock Yacht club.

TREASURE-SEEKING BOYS DISCOVER LONG-LOST RECORDS OF OLD CHURCH

The dreams that most small boys with imaginations have of some day enacting the lucky role in a treasure-hunting party came true for three Bridgeport youngsters yesterday, but their period of wealth was cut short.

Charles Hawman of 297 South avenue, Matthew Skane and Donald Bennett of Warren street, all 12 years old, were walking along Broad street yesterday afternoon discussing Treasure Island. Each had his own opinion as to where treasure could be found, and each had his own ideas as to what he'd do with a few million in doubloons when he found it.

Matthew and Donald were arguing over the choicest site for a rich man's castle when Charles stopped them and whispered: "Look!"

He pointed at the corner of the North Congregational church, which is being demolished. Little but the front of the building remains.

In a projection of the base of the building, close to the iron fence on the corner, a stone had been partly dislodged. Sticking out of masonry dust was a shiny, attractive piece of metal.

No cops were around. The boys climbed through a hole in the fence, found a workman's tool and gouged at the hole. Three "Goes!" were whispered when young Hawman pulled forth a metal box, about a foot long and several inches wide.

"Shake it," said Matthew, and Hawman shook. Something jingled inside.

The boys were aghast. One of them took the box, jammed it into the cover and the lid sprang open. Under books and papers was a pile of silver and bills, and the box gave forth a most musty smell.

With the treasure under one's coat, and the other side of the route least of peace, the boys went to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hawman.

When Mr. and Mrs. Hawman returned about 4 o'clock they found the boys with eyes big and faces flushed pawing over the contents of the box. One look at the papers and a few questions convinced Mr. Hawman he shattered the dreams of the boys by taking the box under his arm and walking off with it.

Mr. Hawman went to the Y. M. C. A. where he procured information concerning the building committee of the new United church. Then he delivered the box to Wilbur Smith, chairman of that committee.

It was learned that the box was prized more by the committee than could be estimated. For days they have been watching the destruction of the church building but couldn't locate the records which were reputed to be lodged somewhere in the mason work. No signs had been found by the wreckers that would indicate the position of the box, and the committee began to believe they didn't exist.

Examination of the contents showed all the old records of the Congregational church, the history of which goes back to 1655. There were in a sealed package. Two dollars in old bills issued by a Connecticut bank, and \$1.91 in silver and a 1-cent piece of copper of the cologne prevalent in 1850 were found. There was a list of contributors to the building of the church, which was dedicated April 11, 1850. Fifteen hundred dollars led off the list of donations. Half a dozen testaments and prayer books, tariff sheets of the New York & Albany railroad, railroad tickets and Connecticut state registers and current newspapers were in the box. It was made of tin, and copper-lined. Everything was in an excellent state of preservation.

When asked for a statement after court adjourned Mr. Cummings said: "It would not be proper for me to discuss, in advance of the trial, the details of the case or indeed to comment on its merits in any way. My action speaks for itself and the scan-

someone else has appeared upon the scene and stolen her love. Judge Bartlett in asking Church if he intended remaining away from the house stated that he could spend the next 15 days in jail in order to let his ardor cool and he reminded that he should not continue his efforts to win Mrs. Greenwood's heart and hand.

Major Flynn As Orator At Great Barrington's Memorial Day Program

Major William Flynn will be the orator at the Memorial Day exercises in Great Barrington, Mass., on Tuesday afternoon. The program, which will be given in the beautiful town hall, will be under the direction of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Sons of Veterans.

Major Flynn formerly lived in Great Barrington, and his old-time friends there are planning a warm welcome for him.

Lieut. Thaw has arrived in Paris on a furlough to recover from wounds sustained when he shot down his second enemy aeroplane.

Bonds Fixed at \$6,000 For Former Banker And at \$1,000 For Officer of Hungarian Society—Judge Curtis Issues Bench Warrants, Following Presentations By State's Attorney Cummings—Private Banking Systems in State Denounced By Prosecutor Who Urges New Legislation to Prevent Similar Financial Disasters.

On 106 counts charging him with misappropriating about \$115,000 from the funds of Burr & Knapp, a bench warrant was issued this morning for the arrest of Herbert M. Knapp, who was president of the ill-fated banking firm.

Judge Curtis of the criminal superior court issued the warrant after a special session of the court had been called at the request of State's Attorney Honor S. Cummings of Stamford.

A second bench warrant was also issued for Knapp and Solomon Lavozky, who are jointly charged with having misappropriated \$4,033.34 from the funds of the Hungarian Sick Benefit Societies Confederation of this city.

Judge Curtis fixed Knapp's bonds at \$6,000 and Lavozky's at \$1,000. The warrants were given at once to Deputy Sheriff Cunningham and he set out to serve them.

Sheriff Cunningham located Knapp in his office and served papers on him this morning. Knapp displayed no surprise at his arrest. He got into communication with friends and was soon released on bail furnished by Medical Examiner and Mrs. S. M. Garlick.

The sheriff was unable to locate Lavozky although he searched in several West End haunts where the man was likely to be found.

The action today was not a complete surprise to depositors and others interested in the Burr & Knapp failure, who were told exclusively in The Farmer several weeks ago that the state's attorney was contemplating issuing a warrant for Knapp.

It had been known that Attorney S. D. Bowers of this city and several expert accountants were examining the bank's books and records. This work required considerable time but it was necessary to have all the facts at hand before warrants could be asked for.

The state's attorney said to the court, "For some months past I have been conducting an investigation into the affairs of the banking firm of Burr & Knapp. This investigation has involved the employment of expert accountants, examinations of the books of the bank and careful reading of such correspondence as was available, examination of many witnesses and sundry collateral inquiries."

"Although an enormous amount of labor has already been expended in this work the investigation has not yet been completed. It has progressed far enough, however, to justify me in asking your honor for a bench warrant for the arrest of Herbert M. Knapp for misappropriation of funds and securities of many different persons, estates and organizations as described in detail in the complaint and information which I submit to your honor."

"I have set forth 105 different criminal acts in as many different counts and the total amount misappropriated aggregates \$110,000. I also ask your honor for a bench warrant for the arrest of Herbert M. Knapp and Solomon Lavozky who are jointly informed against for misappropriating funds of the Hungarian Sick Benefit Societies' Confederation, amounting to \$4,033.34."

When asked for a statement after court adjourned Mr. Cummings said: "It would not be proper for me to discuss, in advance of the trial, the details of the case or indeed to comment on its merits in any way. My action speaks for itself and the scandalous features of the Burr & Knapp failure are already pretty well understood by the press and public."

"I would say, however, that it seems to me that the time has come when some adequate check should be placed by legislative regulation on that form of irresponsible, reckless and criminal private banking which so often leads to gross frauds upon the public and serious and undeserved loss to innocent people."

The failure of Burr & Knapp in September, 1915, was one of the biggest sensations this city ever experienced. The bank had a large number of depositors and it did an extensive business in mortgages. After the failure many persons of limited means found themselves in possession of worthless mortgages.

After Attorney John C. Chamberlain was named trustee by Referee in bankruptcy John W. Banks a number of hearings were held in the bankruptcy court. One of the reports made showed that for 11 and one half years, the firm did business at a loss of \$27,431.09 a year, making a total loss of \$302,567.56. During this period the partners drew salaries at an average of \$16,986.03 a year.

Those who participated in the salary drawing were the late Ebenezer Burr in 1903 and then his widow, Mary H. Burr, who received a total of \$61,439.01; H. M. Knapp, who got \$82,707 and Mrs. Knapp, who was paid \$34,785.34.

The settlement of the estate is still pending in the bankruptcy court as there is dispute involving certain securities claimed by the First Bridgeport National bank. It probably will be a year at least before this litigation can be tried in the courts. Some time ago Knapp asked to be discharged from bankruptcy but various creditors opposed his petition and Referee Banks has taken no action.

In the matter of the Hungarian society funds, in which Knapp is said to have been involved with one of the officers of the society, it is claimed that certain money deposited with Burr & Knapp to be sent by draft to Hungary, was deposited in the private account of Burr & Knapp.

MICHAEL ESPOSITO, AGED 12, GOES ON "SPREE" AND BREAKS INTO NORTH END SCHOOLHOUSE.

Admitting to Captain John H. Reagan that he did not know what he was doing Saturday when he broke in on the Grand street school after drinking wine and beer, 12 year old Michael Esposito, who lives on Commercial street was locked up this morning for his escapade.

Michael, who is a pupil at Columbus school, was taken into custody this morning by Motorcycle Policemen Goras who was summoned to the school. He had admitted breaking in to the school but could give no reason for his action. When taken before the captain at headquarters, Michael began crying, but after quieting was able to talk intelligently. He stated that his father had been preparing some beer and wine in the kitchen of his home and that while

the father and the other members of the family were in another part of the house, he helped himself to the beverages.

While on his "spree," Michael went to the Grand street school and after breaking a window, gained admittance. He did not take anything he declared. He admitted that he had the charge of throwing stones at passersby. His case was nolleed but he stated that he was not placed on probation. As he was being led to a cell, Michael cried loudly and exclaimed that if the officials would allow him his liberty, he would behave in the future.

Carrying several hundred marines, to reinforce the first landing party, a United States cruiser arrived at Santo Domingo.